IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Takeshi SAKAI et al.

Docket No. 00001/F-3511 PT-US

Serial No. 09/269,711

Group Art Unit 1617

Filed April 5, 1999

Examiner S. Wang

APOPTOSIS INDUCING AGENT

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT

ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

RULE 56 STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants have submitted herewith an International Preliminary Examination Report for the International Application (PCT/JP97/03997) upon which the present application is based.

Applicants note that four references (Documents 4-7) are newly cited in the International Preliminary Examination Report.

Document 4: Surette, Marc E. et al., Biochemistry, (1996) 35 (28), p. 9187-96

Document 5: Boggs, Kevin P. et al., J. Biol. Chem., (1995), 270 (19), p. 11612-18

Document 6: Jayadev, S., et al., J. Biol. Chem., (1995), 270 (5), p. 2947-52

Document 7: Robertson, Noreen M. et al., Cancer Res., (1995), 55 (3), p. 548-56

However, it is the conclusion of the Examiner that Documents 4-7 neither describe nor suggest the inventions disclosed in claims 1, 3-9 and 11-16 of the International Application.

Applicants respectfully request that these newly cited references be made of record in the present application file.

Respectfully submitted,

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